

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Figs. 1, 2, 3 and 4. These sheets, which includes Figs. 1, 2, 3 and 4, replace the original sheets including Figs. 1, 2, 3 and 4. Specifically, the handwritten text has been removed from Figs. 2 and 4 to overcome the Examiner's objection; Fig. 1 has been amended to correct a misnumbered element; and Fig. 3 has been amended to add a missing lead line.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the drawings were objected to. Further, claims 1-4, 6-10, 12-21, 23-25, and 27-31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) for being unpatentable over U.S. Pub. 2004/0002694 to Pawlowski et al. Also, claims 5, 11, 22, 26, and 32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 for being unpatentable over Pawlowski et al. in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,347,244 to Dubnack.

In response to the Office Action, the drawings have been amended to overcome the Examiner's objection and to correct clerical errors. Specifically, the handwritten text has been removed from Figs. 2 and 4, a misnumbered element has been corrected in Fig. 1, and a missing lead line has been added to Fig. 3. Also, the specification has been amended to correct typographical errors. Further, independent claims 1, 12 and 23 have been amended. Specifically, each of these independent claims has been amended to require that a second harmonic generation (SHG) response (i.e., photon conversion) be induced when the system's laser beam is incident on anisotropic tissue. Accordingly, claims 9-11, 17 and 30-32 have been amended to correct antecedent bases. Support for the amendments is found in the specification at page 5, from line 12 through line 22, and at page 9, from line 6 through line 18. No new matter has been entered.

Amendments to the claims have been presented herein to improve the readability of the claims and to more specifically point out the features that distinguish the present

invention over the cited art. Further, the amended claims more clearly define the device and method of the present invention. Claims 1-32 remain pending.

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Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

In the Office Action, claims 1-4, 6-10, 12-21, 23-25, and 27-31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) for being unpatentable over U.S. Pub. 2004/0002694 to Pawlowski et al. Also, claims 5, 11, 22, 26, and 32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 for being unpatentable over Pawlowski et al. in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,347,244 to Dubnack.

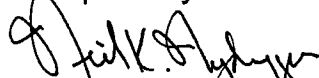
As amended, all of the claims now require that the claimed system, apparatus or method induce a second harmonic generation response at anisotropic tissue in the fundus of the eye. As explained in the specification, during second harmonic generation, photons from light having a first wavelength are converted to create light having a second wavelength. It is important to note that the application recognizes that

the second harmonic generation response occurs at anisotropic tissue, but not at isotropic tissue, in the fundus. This understanding is fundamental to the invention, as the claimed system and method induce the SHG response and include a detector that measures the SHG response in order to locate anisotropic and isotropic tissue in the fundus. Though vital to the claimed invention, the requirement of inducing a second harmonic response is not disclosed or suggested by any combination of the cited art. Specifically, the cited references are directed to surgical treatments, not to diagnostic evaluation. Further, neither of the cited references provides for any use of SHG responses.

As a result and in conclusion, Applicant respectfully asserts that claims 1-32 are patentable for the reasons set forth above, and that the application is now in a condition for allowance. Accordingly, an early notice of allowance is respectfully requested. The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at 619-688-1300 for any reason that would advance the instant application to issue.

Dated this 11th day of June, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,



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